

THE ritual slaughter is over for another year. Spirited, but helpless Corinthian Casuals have donated their two points towards the 'Wycombe for the Isthmian League title' campaign, and now only a disastrous drop in form can jolt Wanderers on the final run in to the championship crown.

By MIKE WHITESMAN: Wycombe W. 7, Corinthian Cas. 0

At Loakes Park, despite Corinthian Casuals' late season recovery, the result was one of those foregone conclusions after Wanderers had taken a fifth-minute lead.

Without either John Delaney or Geoff Anthony, the home team drafted Keith Stephenson and Vince Faulkner in as replacements.

Stephenson, along with his fellow defenders, was hardly ever troubled as the possible threat from ex-Wanderer Quil Peasgood failed to emerge.

But Faulkner was busier. Lacking the speed required for wing duty, Vince nonetheless bluffed his way through the game, which was played at three-quarter pace. And, by sending the ball inside when and where needed, he did everything required of him.

Certainly twin-strikers Keith Searle and Tony Horseman had few complaints, adding five goals between them.

The first fell to Searle, who launched himself on a hat-trick trail in the fifth minute, beating 'keeper Chris Swain at close quarters to shoot into an open goal.

Faulkner's activities gave his shadow full-back Remnant a worrying time, and Casuals a succession of panicky moments near their line with Searle in particular lapping up the extra possession.

Julian Lailey too, after a lean start to 1970, took advantage of the carefree occasion to recover his composure and skills.

It was a searing, narrow-angled drive from Johnny Hutchinson on the left that next beat the visitors' defence in the 24th minute. And two Horseman goals in as many minutes settled the issue before half-time.

Nine more minutes saw Hutchinson make the third goal for Tony, who seized upon his through pass, beat Swain and, unhindered, slid the ball home.

Horseman ran in again in the next minute to notch number four following Faulkner's cross.

Only two minutes into the new half, the scoring process restarted, producing three fairly spectacular goals.

Again Searle began the ceremony, by lunging to head in after Lailey had slung a high ball inside from the left.

And ten minutes later, it was Searle again, scoring a brilliant sixth and ending half-way through a cartwheel in the process.

Six up, and with poor Casuals fully tamed, Wycombe seemed content to relax, causing a lull in the football.

The visitors had individual flair—Chris Joy, half-back and son of football writer, Bernard, showed intelligent thinking—but little team power.

One of their few shots came only ten minutes from time when 17-years-old protégé

Haydock Alexander broke through to warn how lax Wycombe's defence had become.

Faulkner completed the rout in the 89th minute, after a Hutchinson and Searle move had taken play inside off the right. Vince lunged at full stretch to head the ball home and finished up flat out on his face in the mud around the visitors' area.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: J. Maskell; I. Rundle, C. Gale; P. Suddaby, K. Stephenson, J. Lailey; J. Faulkner, B. Baker, K. Searle, A. Horseman, J. Hutchinson. Sub.: D. Thomas (not used).

CORINTHIAN CASUALS: C. Swain; P. Imison, K. Remnant; A. Wakeling, M. Houslop, C. Joy; E. Elias, D. Fletcher, J. Peasgood, H. Alexander, P. Sussams.